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AUTHOR	Nichols, James O.
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ABSTRACT

This is a collection of case studies on the implementation of institutional assessment and evaluation of student outcomes in higher education. The cases are drawn from eleven institutions. Research universities and four-year colleges included were: Clemson University (South Carolina), State University of New York (Albany), University of Kentucky (Lexington), Sam Houston State University (Texas), Appalachian State University (North Carolina), University of Montevallo (Alabama), and Stillman College (Alabama). The community colleges examined were: Coastal Carolina (North Carolina), Collin County (Texas), Mount Hood (Oregon), and Jefferson State (Alabama). Specific examples are also drawn from other institutions and included in appendices. The book includes a general introduction to institutional assessment, a discussion of issues in the initiation of the assessment process, and guidance for creating a detailed evaluation program at the departmental or program level. The book also describes establishment of an institutional effectiveness or assessment cycle on the campuses used for the case studies and discusses costs of assessment programs. Appendices include an outline of case study topics; examples of intended educational outcomes and assessment measures from various disciplines; examples of institutional statements of purpose; an extract from a program and support services review; sample questionnaires; a summary of departmental assessment plans; a review of educational units, regulations, and instructions; and a description of assessment cycles. (JLS)

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